Research Library Council
Meeting Minutes
December 8 (rescheduled from October 13, 2023)

10:00am – 11:30am
On Zoom

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Meeting ID: 951 7927 1302
Passcode: 174706

A. Election of the Chair of Research Library Council
    a. Tony opened the floor for nominations/self-nominations:
        i. No nominations; Tony will serve as interim chair until such time as someone steps up
        ii. Becky S moved to approve Tony as interim chair
            1. Vote carried with no abstentions
            2. Members should feel free to submit agenda items to Tony

B. Approval of minutes from May 16, 2023
    a. Minutes have been approved

C. Comments from the Dean of University Libraries
    a. Dean Mani began with an expression of gratitude for the service of RLC members
    b. We will bring library staff who are closer to the work to future meetings in order to address ideas and suggestions like Chip Weem's request for DOI search
    c. The year is off to a strong start, with interaction with new Chancellor, development of data unit and the Special Collections and University Archives integration with the broader university community; the Libraries appreciated the opportunity to share with the Chancellor and his leadership team; Dean Mani used a OneLibrary approach, which was inclusive of all libraries staff for input and feedback
    d. The Libraries staff continues to grow and strengthen the ability to support key areas

D. Comments of RLC Members
    a. Tony noted that he has not served on RLC and will rely on the members to share the priorities for RLC, but wants to know whether RLC would take on the following topics:

i. Artificial intelligence, particularly with regard to training data
ii. ORCID – previous Provost had mentioned the effect of low uptake of research for research analytics on rankings; concern around decline in research ranking for the university.
    1. Nandita provided an update on ORCID; Christine Turner provided a presentation during an RLC meeting last year to demonstrate the value of ORCID, and VCRE and Libraries are working with Christine to help bring her presentation to additional audiences. Christine is available for consults on ORCID and is working with grad school/grad students to help bring greater awareness.
    2. Tony asked how ORCID will feed into research analytics; Nandita explained that, once campus selects a system for tracking research output, ORCID will feed into it and will help correct/prevent errors regarding institutional affiliations in citation data. This allows databases like SCOPUS and Web of Science to pull accurate info for citation counts. Nandita used Marieb College of Nursing as an example of how institutional names can vary and this can cloud the understanding of what the institution is. Clarity of association also enables greater opportunity for cross-institutional collaboration (and extra-institutional collaboration as well.)
        a. Tony suggested RLC might wish to create a set of guidelines around best practices for research
    3. Chip Weems raised a comment on the need for ORCID promotion at departmental level; also noted that ORCID does not have a good tool for capturing/importing conference presentations, which is the primary format for scholarly output in his discipline. Manual entering of conference presentations is time consuming and cumbersome. Also noted that ORCID doesn't allow for import from Google Scholar.
    4. Ryan Clement (Associate Dean for Data, Digital Strategies, and Scholarly Communication) noted that this is good feedback for him (and Christine Turner) to have, as they are able to share it with the ORCID board for future improvements. Also asked

that RLC members assist with bringing the ORCID presentations to individual departments.

5. Haivan inquired for additional information on how ORCID might be helpful/useful at the department level.
    a. Dean Mani responded that ORCID is even more useful at the individual level; one of the great benefits is name disambiguation, and Christine Turner would be very eager to speak to departments and individuals on the benefits of ORCID.
6. Tony suggested that ORCID would be useful as a future agenda item, particularly around strategizing on increasing institutional uptake of ORCID – the concerns raised by both Chip and Tony are worth noting, and the feedback will help to refine strategy and shape future work around increasing ORCID
7. Becky asked a clarifying question: Would faculty just signing up for the disambiguation purpose be enough, or is the goal for faculty to fully fill it out?
    a. Ryan replied: the goal would be to set a guideline for the minimum of what faculty should do; e.g., publications, but not necessarily conference proceedings, etc. Libraries can work on developing these guidelines to disseminate so that people don't need to search it out on their own. Disambiguation is a key factor, though, due to the different manners in which journals will style people's names. ORCID is also a persistent identifier and travels with faculty regardless of position or institution or affiliation.

iii. Open Access policy – Tony asked whether the council might be interested/willing to discuss how OA might interact with AI

1. Ryan noted that both Christine Turner and Laura Quilter (Copyright librarian) will be looking at policy in light of changes and new trends; last update was 2016 (Senate document 16-004), and the goal is to make sure it's current and takes into account the changes since then. Laura and Christine are both available and willing to meet with RLC in the future.
2. Tony described process for change to policy should RLC decide to revise/update it – perhaps this might be something to do for spring semester.

a. Ryan noted that revisions would likely not be terribly complex; language updates and types of materials/resources would be expanded to include new and emergent types.

E. Introductions: Nandita noted that last year we put forward two new Associate Dean positions, and she is delighted to introduce them to RLC:
    a. Ryan Clement, Associate Dean for Data, Digital Strategies, and Scholarly Communication
        i. Oversees Data Services, Digital Media Lab, Scholarly Communication, and Digital Scholarship
        ii. Two members of the division are on the campus AI task force; Laura Quilter and Steve Bischof, both of whom are working to develop campus policy and library workshops
        iii. Data Services is developing bibliometrics capabilities to capture school-level research activity; currently searching for Head of Data Services position; librarians are preparing to comply with new data requirements from OSTP memo
        iv. Working on upgrading library publishing and institutional repository platforms to better integrate with ORCID, capture and house publications from faculty automatically, include data and audiovisual materials
    b. Adam Ware, Associate Dean, Special Collections & University Archives
        i. Oversees Robert S. Cox SCUA Research Center; University Archives; Du Bois Center
        ii. Priorities going forward: clarifying collection priorities; ensuring access and availability; developing greater integration of the intellectual and material aspects in the classroom experience; exhibition of holdings across the university for greater visibility

F. New Positions
    a. Assistant Dean for Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
        i. Currently moving forward with this position, which also focuses on employee engagement
    b. Native American and Indigenous Studies Librarian
        i. Currently searching; interview panel is reviewing applications
    c. Head of Data Services
        i. Currently searching; interview panel is reviewing applications
    d. Libraries also had put forward base budget support for Du Bois Center as a strategic investment; university administration was willing & able to support this, which allows us to strengthen the work of the Center

G. Review of proposed revisions to the current RLC Charge
    a. Discussion of updated draft
        i. Minor amendment moved and carried
        ii. Proposed amendment: Review and communicate budget needs and advise on budget priorities
            1. Motion seconded and carried with no nay votes and one abstention

H. GeoPortal Demonstration (Becky Seifried)
    a. Becky shared the link: https://geodata.library.umass.edu/
    b. The nickname for this is “UMAP”
    c. Built on GeoBlacklight; there are about 25 other institutions, including museums, that use it; UMass is contributing to development
    d. Tony raised a question re: the platform – is it primarily for resources in the Libraries?
        i. There’s capacity for interfacing with additional repositories; metadata records from *anywhere* can be added as long as they’re available, which would (eventually, ideally) turn this into a one-stop shop for researches exploring geospatial data
        ii. Haivan thinks it’s awesome and will be incredibly useful for teaching and learning and for students to explore GIS research